

OUTGOING MESSAGE

Approved For Release 2005/06/13 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100170006-4

FLD 25X1

SIGNAL CENTER USE ONLY

AGE COI ACP TOG TPE MRO DCI TRI

OF PAGES

SCM 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 25X1

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

25X1

SOURCE REF:

1		4		7		10	
2		5		8		11	
3		6		9		12	

ITEM NO. 011-

DATE 2 OCTOBER 1974

SUBJECT: SOVIET DIPLOMAT DISCUSSES IMPACT OF NDR ON EASTERN EUROPE

A SOVIET DIPLOMAT IN BONN, A FORMER AIDE TO NGROMYKO, WAS TOLD A US OFFICIAL THAT THE US POSITION ON NDR IGNORES POLITICAL REALITIES IN CENTRAL EUROPE. HE SAID THAT SOVIET REDUCTIONS TO THE EXTENT DEMANDED BY THE WEST COULD LEAD TO FUTURE "PRAGUE SPRINGS" IN EASTERN EUROPE.

THIS IS AN UNUSUALLY CANDID STATEMENT OF A GENUINE SOVIET CONCERN REGARDING FORCE REDUCTIONS.

DATE:
ORIG: State Department review completed
UNIT:
EXT:

RELEASING OFFICER

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CLASSIFICATION

REPRODUCTION BY OTHER THAN THE ISSUING OFFICE IS PROHIBITED

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CLASSIFICATION

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE-TIME GROUP

CITE

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TAKING THIS LINE WITH WESTERNERS IS ALSO, IN A SENSE, SELF-SERVING IN THAT IT JUSTIFIES SOVIET UNWILLINGNESS TO MAKE REDUCTIONS AS LARGE AS ^{THOSE} DESIRED BY THE WEST. IN THE SAME CONVERSATION THE SOVIET OFFICIAL ASKED WHETHER THE US WAS PREPARED TO DROP THE "COMMON CEILING APPROACH" UNDER WHICH SOVIET FORCE REDUCTIONS WOULD BE CONSIDERABLY LARGER THAN THOSE OF THE US.

(SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION: E EUR DIV AND NIO

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